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# MORNING BULLETIN

## Spies and lies

A former Soviet intelligence officer believes increased use of polygraph tests for U.S. government and military personnel will hamper the efforts of the Soviet KGB to recruit Americans like those involved in the alleged spying run by ex-Navy man John Walker.

The former intelligence officer, in a background interview, said the Soviet Union apparently developed the Walker connection through "an intelligence factor called luck." It is believed that the Soviets recruited John Walker more than 20 years ago and discovered that he was skilled at recruiting other Americans, including his son, who was stationed on board the Navy aircraft carrier USS Nimitz, another relative, a friend and perhaps other acquaintances.

"I think the use of polygraph tests is a very serious deterrent factor," the former KGB official said. In the wake of the Walker case, the U.S. government has mentioned using polygraph tests to uncover enemy agents within its ranks. The former official said increasing the use of polygraph tests will "dramatically minimize" espionage against the United States.

"You can train intelligence officers to fool polygraphs, but not their agents," the former official said. He said it is very unlikely a Soviet intelligence officer would be able to infiltrate the higher levels of key government agencies. Standard intelligence methods, he said, involve recruitment of other people who have access to target secrets.

And American agents recruited by Soviet spies could not easily be sent to Bulgaria and other Soviet bloc countries for the training necessary to pass polygraph tests.

— John Elvin

*This column includes staff and wire service reports.*